

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SR-02 ORM-01 /076 W
----- 010268

R 141211Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2775

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, PO

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE REACTION TO ANOLAN VIOLENCE

REF: LISBON 2543

1. ANTUNES TO ANGOLA: PRIOR TO HIS MAY 13 LISBON DEPARTURE
FOR LUANDA, GOP FOREIGN MINISTER MELO ANTUNES SAID HIS
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MISSION WAS TO TRY AND RECOVENE NEW SUMMIT BETWEEN GOP,

MPLA, FNLA, AND UNITA. ANTUNES WOULD NOT COMMENT ON UNOFFICIAL REPORTS THAT FNLA HAD REFUSED GOP CALL FOR TALKS. ANTUNES STATED NOVEMBER INDEPENDENCE DATE PROBABLY TO REMAIN SAME; ONLY PORTIONS OF ALVOR ACCORD IN NEED OF REVISION.

2. REFUGEE FLIGHTS: SPECIAL TAP FLIGHT FOR REFUGEES FROM ANGOLA LANDED LISBON MAY 13 WITH CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY. ALTHOUGH PRECISE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS IS NOT KNOWN, NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD JUMBO 747 WITH SEATING CAPACITY OF 360 WAS ESTIMATED AT 400. SECOND IN SERIES OF REFUGEE FLIGHTS FROM LUANDA IS EXPECTED MAY 15.

3. FAR-LEFT CALLS FOR ALMEIDA SANTOS DISMISSAL: FOUR FAR-LEFT POLITICAL GROUPS ISSUED JOINT COMMUNIQUE MAY 13 ON ANGOLAN SITUATION. POPULAR SOCIALIST FRONT (FRENTE SOCIALISTA POPULAR-FSP), INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST LEAGUE (LIGA COMMUNISTA INTERNACIONALISTA-LCI), LEAGUE OF UNION AND REVOLUTIONARY ACTION (LIGA DE UNIAO E ACCAO REVOLUCIONARIA-LUAR), AND LEFT SOCIALIST MOVEMENT (MOVIMENTO DE ESQUERDA SOCIALISTA-MES) CHARGED GOP NEUTRALITY IN FACE OF ANGOLA VIOLENCE PERMITTED "IMPERIALIST FORCES" TO REINFORCE THEIR POSITION. COMMUNIQUE CALLED FOR DISMISSAL OF GOP MINISTER OF INTER-TERRITORIAL COORDINATION ALMEIDA SANTOS, ANGOLAN HIGH COMMISSION AND SPINOLIST OFFICERS. COMMUNIQUE ALSO CALLED FOR PURGE AMONG GOP MILITARY AND CIVILIANS IN ANGOLA AND DEMANDED WITHDRAWAL OF LIBERATION GROUPS STATUS FROM UNITA AND FNLA.

4. MDP APPEAL: COMMUNIST ORIENTED POPULAR DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MOVIMENTO DEMOCRATICO POPULAR-MDP/CDE) MAY 13 ISSUED PUBLIC APPEAL FOR CLOTHING, MEDICINE, AND SANITARY SUPPLIES FOR ANGOLAN VICTIMS OF MAY VIOLENCE. (MDP/CDE OFFICIALLY GAVE UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT TO MPLA MILITANTS MAY 5.)

5. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF PRESS REPORTS NOW CITING 3500 DEAD, CRITICISM FROM FAR LEFT, AND FLIGHT OF WHITES FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TERRITORY, GOP WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN POSITION THAT ALVOR ACCORD IS ADEQUATE MECHANISM FOR ANGOLAN DECOLONIZATION. ANTUNES TAKING ON ACTIVE ROLE TO PATCH UP SAGGING ALVOR ACCORD WITHOUT ASSUMING NEW COMMITMENT BY GOP OR CHANGE IN NOVEMBER 11 INDEPENDENCE DATE. ANGOLAN DECOLONIZATION IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO ANTUNES, WHO PLACES PREMIUM ON CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THIRD-WORLD. GOP FEELS VULNERABLE BEFORE SPECTER OF A

BLOODY ANGOLAN DECOLONIZATION AND CONSEQUENT LOWERING OF
PORTUGAL'S NEWLY-FOUND PRESTIGE IN THE THIRD-WORLD. IN
ADDITION, REFUGEE INFLUX INTO PORTUAL CAN ONLY AGGRAVATE
COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS, WHICH ARE ALREADY
CONSIDERABLE.
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